



62ND
Secretary's
Annual Honor
AWARDS

2010

THOMAS JEFFERSON AUDITORIUM
USDA SOUTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010, 2:00 PM

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

In the year-and-a-half that I have been Secretary, I've been privileged to work with the finest cadre of employees in the federal service. When I took this job last year, I recognized USDA as an "Every Day in Every Way" department. This isn't a slogan. It's a standard that USDA employees reach each working day through the breadth and complexity of their efforts and the impact of their achievements on the citizens of our country.

By any measure, USDA employees make enormous contributions to the good of our nation. As we've struggled with the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, the demands on USDA employees have been greater than ever and we celebrate your efforts—both large-scale and small—that touch our citizens and protect our resources.



I am proud that this year's awards reflect President Obama's and my priorities for the Department: revitalizing rural communities; providing America's children safe, nutritious and balanced meals; conserving and restoring our nation's natural resources; and promoting agricultural production and increasing food security.

Working to alleviate the stress of a tough economy, you have helped put healthy food within reach for millions of low-income Americans.

You have contributed in many ways to rural revitalization: working on last year's Rural Tour; creating opportunities through rural broadband access and the production of renewable energy in rural communities; and promoting domestic local and regional food systems that keep wealth in rural communities.

Thanks to your efforts to promote exports abroad, we're likely to achieve the second highest level of ag exports in history this year.

You have worked diligently to implement the 2008 Farm Bill and move its programs and services into the hands of farmers and ranchers. You have fought forest fires and been there for USDA customers through natural disasters. You have worked to ensure the safety of our food supply, tackle the challenges of child nutrition and obesity, and conserve our natural resources for future generations.

You have also guided something historic: the first year of USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. NIFA was formed in recognition of the fundamental importance of science in addressing the challenges of the 21st century.

Working with you—observing your dedication and commitment—is a constant inspiration. My thanks to each award winner for marking this department with excellence and making a difference in the lives of our citizens every day. Congratulations and thank you.

Sincerely,
Tom Vilsack, Secretary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

62ND
Secretary's Annual

HONOR

2010

AWARDS

Thomas Jefferson Auditorium

Musical Prelude

Presentation of Colors

“National Anthem”

Pledge of Allegiance

**Welcome and Introduction of
Secretary of Agriculture**

Secretary's Message

Presentation of Awards

Armed Forces Color Guard

Armed Forces Color Guard

The Honorable Pearlie S. Reed
Assistant Secretary for Administration

Pearlie S. Reed
Assistant Secretary for Administration

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
The Honorable Kathleen A. Merrigan
Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

SECRETARY'S HONOR AWARD CATEGORIES

Assisting rural communities to create prosperity so they are self-sustaining, repopulating, and economically thriving

Ensuring our National forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources

Helping America promote sustainable agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security

Ensuring that all of America's children have access to safe, nutritious, and balanced meals

Management Excellence – USDA Every Day In Every Way

Personal and Professional Excellence

Support Service

Heroism and Emergency Response

2009 Presidential Rank Awards

President's Volunteer Service Awards and Call to Service Award

Closing Remarks

Kathleen A. Merrigan

Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

Off-Stage Announcer

Ron Buckhalt

Departmental Management

Audience will be seated promptly at 1:45 p.m.

Please stand during the presentation of colors and remain standing until the colors retire.

A reception for the award recipients and their guests will be held on the Jamie L. Whitten Building Patio immediately following the Secretary's Honor Awards Ceremony.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

62ND

Secretary's Annual

HONOR

2010

AWARDS

Recipients

ASSISTING RURAL COMMUNITIES TO CREATE
PROSPERITY SO THEY ARE SELF-SUSTAINING,
REPOPULATING, AND
ECONOMICALLY THRIVING

Individual and Group Achievements

**2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments
Workbook Team**

Farm Service Agency, Washington, D.C.

Andrea Naughton, *Group Leader*

For quickly developing the 2008 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment Workbook to deliver vital benefits to the Nation's farmers affected by natural disasters.

Group Members:

Kerry A. Sefton, Jeffrey K. Yasui



Agriprocessors Recovery and Litigation Team

*Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration,
Des Moines, Iowa*

Bruce A. Gardner, *Group Leader*

For dedicated and professional efforts to return over \$5.3 million to farmers and ranchers in full and fair payment for their product, helping to ensure their economic viability.

Group Members:

Gregory Andrews, Adam Fast, Tanisha Mapes, Luis Sosa, Casey Sturgill, LaDondra Taylor

U.S. Department of Justice Group Members:

Matt Cole, Pete Deegan, Shari Konarske, Lee C. Meyer, Maureen Oviatt, Sali Van Weelden, CJ Williams

Office of the General Counsel Group Members:

Eric Paul, Christopher Young



Beef Instrument Grading Implementation Team

Agricultural Marketing Service, Washington, D.C.

Martin E. O'Connor, Group Leader

For leading research, design, development, and implementation of advanced electronic image analysis technology to improve the accuracy, precision, and consistency of applying the Official USDA Grades of Carcass Beef.

Group Members:

William B. Charles, Darrell L. Dowd, Randall B. Foland, Joel Gottlieb,
Richard E. Johnson, Larry R. Meadows, Larry W. McMurdie, Cecil R. Rains, Kerry R. Smith,
Stephen J. Whisenant, Paul A. Wiggins, Lawrence Yates

Export Credit Guarantee (GSM-102) Program Team

Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington, D.C.

Mark Rowse, Group Leader

For excellence in streamlining and strengthening the Export Credit Guarantee (GSM-102) program in support of maintaining and expanding U.S. agricultural exports.



Group Members:

LaQuita Abbey, Randy Baxter, Rita Carleton, Helen Cooney, Jonathan Doster,
Lorie Fitzsimmons, Nestor Gregory, Toni Harper, Kelly Huhn, Jameika Henderson,
Michele Kouadio, Paula Lane, Wilhemina Leake, Mark Manning, Juan McCoy,
Pamela McKenzie, Peter Northrop, Alonzo Parker, Carol Richardson, Sylvia Ruiz,
Teri Ryan, Amy Slusher, Michael Smith, Daniele Swain, Hal Taylor, Mary Ann Wallace,
Chris Williams, Michelle Zissimos

H1N1 Coordination Group

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Lisa A. Ferguson and Jonathan T. Zack, Group Leaders

For outstanding dedication and cooperation in developing an interagency-sanctioned flexible and risk measured approach to finding H1N1 virus in swine.

Group Members:

Lyndsay Cole, Ed Curlett, Michael J. David, Steven N. Finch, Sharon S. Fisher, Patricia L.
Foley, Donna M. Gatewood, Thomas Michael Gomez, Joseph R. Hermann, Ellen M. Kasari,
John Korslund, Barbara M. Martin, David Pyburn, Jill Rolland, Beverly J. Schmitt,
Aaron E. Scott, Danielle Spaulding, Darrel K. Styles, Sabrina L. Swenson,
Mark E. Teachman, Sarah M. Tomlinson

Agricultural Research Service Group Members:

Cyril Gay, Steven M. Kappes, Amy L. Vincent

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—*Department of Health and Human Services*

Group Members:

Carolyn Bridges, Nancy J. Cox, Diane K. Gross, Alexander I. Klimov, Carol S. Rubin

Food Safety and Inspection Service Group Members:

Rick Harries, Brian K. Mabry, Alice M. Thaler

Office of Communications Group Member:

Angela L. Harless

Tara H. McHugh

Agricultural Research Service, Albany, California

For developing innovative and sustainable food processing solutions, increasing healthfulness and safety of specialty crops, and benefitting rural communities by creating new businesses and job growth.



Mobile Slaughter Unit Outreach Team

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Janet McGinn, Group Leader

For exemplary service in support of the *Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food* initiative by providing information on mobile slaughter units to foster new economic opportunities for farmers and ranchers and to better protect public health.

Group Members:

Denise Amann, Daphne Brown, Patrick Burke, Rachel Cumberpatch, Mark Cutrufelli, Barbara Dwyer, Sally Fernandez, Geraldine French, Charles Gioglio, John Hicks, Harvey Hunter, Lynvel Johnson, Bruce King, Matthew Michael, Beth McKew, Liza Murray, Murray Penner, Robert Ragland, Gregory Sherman, Jeff White, Gordon Wilson

Rural Development Group Members:

Cheryl Cook, Andrew Jermolowicz

ENSURING OUR NATIONAL FORESTS AND PRIVATE
WORKING LANDS ARE CONSERVED, RESTORED, AND
MADE MORE RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE, WHILE
ENHANCING OUR WATER RESOURCES

Individual and Group Achievements

City of Grand Junction Municipal Watershed Team

Forest Service, Grand Junction, Colorado

**Rick Brinkman, Water Services Manager and Connie Clementson,
Forest Service District Ranger, Group Leaders**

For outstanding community collaboration and accomplishment of the forest health-related activities vital to the protection of municipal watersheds.

Group Members:

Linda Bledsoe, Mike Surber, Craig Warren

City of Grand Junction Group Member:

Danny Vanover

Ronald F. Follett

Agricultural Research Service, Fort Collins, Colorado

For outstanding leadership of the global climate change research of the Agricultural Research Service for its Greenhouse Gas Reduction through the Agricultural Carbon Enhancement network (GRACEnet) program.



Gary L. Larsen

Forest Service, Sandy, Oregon

For developing the Oregon youth employment initiative, which has put more than 3,000 youth to work in every county of Oregon enhancing watersheds statewide and improving the health of national forests.



Pacific Region Fire Cost-Recovery Team

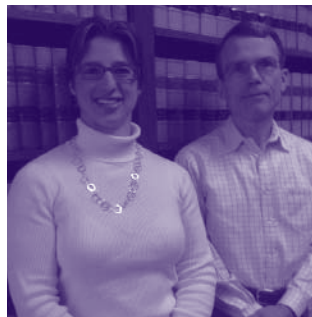
Office of the General Counsel, San Francisco, California

Robert J. Moulton, Group Leader

For recovering more than \$160 million in affirmative fire claims to be used to conserve and restore National Forest System lands.

Forest Service Group Members:

Cindi Boukidis, Marion Matthews, Randy Moore, Jim Pena, Janet Skeen (retired), Cynthia Zabolzadeh



Office of General Counsel Group Member:

Rachel A. Birkey

Pollution Control Team - American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO LLC) Bankruptcy Litigation Team

Office of the General Counsel, Washington, D.C.

Ronald S. McClain, Group Leader

For successful recovery of over \$171 million in the ASARCO LLC bankruptcy to be used for environmental cleanup and natural resources restoration at 12 contaminated sites of Forest Service land.

Group Members: James E. Alexander, Gary M. Fremerman, Michael R. Hope, Rose Miksovsky, Kirk M. Minckler, Sharmain L. White

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Keshena, Wisconsin

Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Menominee Indian Tribe and Nate Guldán, Forest County Potawatomi, Group Leaders

For uniting to form the first Tribal Conservation Advisory Council in the Nation to sustain the forests, fisheries, and tribal food sources on Tribal Lands in Wisconsin.



Group Members:

Roman Ferdinand, Luke Hennigan, Tracey Ledder, Brett McConnell, Scott McDougall, Pat Pelky, Pam Roberts, Sara Schmidt, Katie Stariha, Jim Thannum

HELPING AMERICA PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
EXPORTS AS AMERICA WORKS
TO INCREASE FOOD SECURITY

Individual and Group Achievements

Cattle Genomics Consortium

Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Maryland

Curtis P. Van Tassell and Tad S. Sonstegard, Group Leaders

For novel discoveries leading to the development of a commercial cattle DNA assay and developing methods for incorporating data into the national dairy cattle genetic evaluation system.

Group Members:

John B. Cole, Marcos V. Silva, Paul M. VanRaden, George R. Wiggans

George Mason University, Group Member:

Lakshmi K. Matukumalli

University of Maryland, Columbia, Group Members:

Robert D. Schnabel, Jeremy F. Taylor

University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Group Member:

Jeffrey R. O'Connell

***United States Government Codex Committee on
Methods of Analysis Interagency Team***

Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington, D.C.

Jack Bobo, Senior Advisor for Biotechnology,

U. S. Department of State, Group Leader

For successfully concluding years of contentious negotiations by making changes to an influential international standard on molecular testing that could have caused significant disruption to international trade of biotech products.

Group Member:

Kirsten R. Jaglo

Agricultural Marketing Service, Group Member:

Michael D. Sussman

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Group Members:

Kenneth Lowery, Barbara McNiff, Karen Stuck

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Group Members:

Larry Freese, Don Kendall

*Addendum to the United States Government Codex Committee on Methods
Of Analysis Interagency Team*

*United States Government Codex Committee on
Methods of Analysis Interagency Team*

Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington, D.C.

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Agricultural Marketing Service, Group Member:

Michael D. Sussman

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Group Members:

Kenneth Lowery, Barbara McNiff, Karen Stuck

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Group Members:

Larry Freese, Don Kendall

U. S. Department of State, Group Member:

Marcella Szymanski

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Group Members:

Gregory Diachenko, Gregory Noonan, Michael Wehr

ENSURING THAT ALL OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN
HAVE ACCESS TO SAFE, NUTRITIOUS, AND
BALANCED MEALS

Individual and Group Achievements



Eat Right. Be Active. Have Fun. Team

Food and Nutrition Service, Alexandria, Virginia

Jean W. Daniel and Pat Seward, Group Leaders

For excellence in management and leadership of a campaign to promote nutrition, physical activity, and healthier lives for all Americans.

Group Members:

Jan Adams, Laura Griffin, Jackie Haven, Regan Hopper, Donna Johnson-Bailey,
Chris Kocsis, Margarita Maisterrena, Adriana Zorrilla

Office of Communications Group Member:

Garth Clark

Economic Research Service Food Environment Atlas Team

Economic Research Service, Washington, D.C.

Vince Breneman and Elise Golan, Group Leaders

For the development and dissemination of an online research tool helping identify key food access characteristics in U.S. communities.

Group Members:

John Buckler, Alisha Coleman-Jensen, Adrie Custer, Christopher Dicken, Elizabeth Frazao,
Joanne Guthrie, Carol Jones, Phillip Kaufman, Lou King, John Kirlin, Pete Kostik,
Ephraim Leibtag, Luanne Lohr, Mary Maher, Lisa Mancino, Nancy McNiff, David Nulph,
Timothy Parker, Tracy Payne, Steve Peterson, Brenda Powell, Matt Poyner,
Katherine Ralston, Mary Reardon, Wanda Reed-Rose, Carolyn Rogers, Curtia Taylor,
Jessica Todd, Shelly Ver Ploeg, Valencia Wallace, Nedra Williams, Ryan Williams

Food Safety Education Conference Team

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Beltsville, Maryland

Robert Tuverson, Group Leader

For extraordinary dedication and accomplishment in protecting public health through development, planning, and execution of the 2010 Food Safety Education Conference “Advancements in Food Safety Education: Trends, Tools, and Technologies.”



Group Members:

Rowena Becknel, Carol Blake, Eileen Dykes, Linda Eckrich, Michelle Everett, Kristin Holt, Tracy Legall, Carol McAlman, Barbara O'Brien, Craig Stoltz, Cody Thornton, Diane VanLonkhuyzen, CiCi Williamson

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Group Member:

Christine Prue

Food and Drug Administration Group Members:

Janice Adams-King, Marjorie Davidson

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Group Member:

Jan Singleton

Office of Communications Group Members:

David Kosling, Cynthia Mendoza, Patrick O'Leary

Historic Food Stamp Program Team

Food and Nutrition Service, Alexandria, Virginia

Carolyn Foley, Group Leader

For leading the effort to preserve important Food Stamp Program materials that will have historic and cultural significance as part of a collection that will show the important part, historically and culturally, that the Program played for our Nation.

Group Members:

Bea Fitzgerald, Regan Hopper, Elvira May, Cora Russell, Jezra Thompson

Smithsonian Group Members:

Tom Conklin, Richard Doty, Robyn Einhorn, Valeska Hilbig, Peter Huntoon, Karen Lee

Interagency “Terms of Reference” Team

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Ronald K. Jones, Group Leader

For implementation of the United States and Mexico “Terms of Reference” agreement that improves procedural guidelines on matters of food safety and public health.



Group Members:

Alfred Almanza, Rowena Becknel, Philip Derfler,
William James, Andreas Keller, Juan Rodriguez, David Smith, Mary Stanley

Foreign Agricultural Service Group Members:

Casey Bean, Oscar Ferrara, Gabriel Hernandez, Jeff Nawn, Zaida SanJuan, Emily Scott,
Daniel Williams

Office of the General Counsel Group Members:

Nancy Kao, Sheila Novak

Pathogen Workgroups

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Teresa Taylor, Group Leader

For greatly enhancing the protection of the public health and advancing the goals of the President’s Food Safety Working Group.

Group Members:

Christopher Alvares, Irene Arnold, Nelson Andrews, Kristina Barlow, Patty Bennett,
Jeff Brown, Kim Butler, Nelson Clinch, Eric Ebel, Rachel Edelstein, Emilio Esteban,
Peter Evans, Jessica Forshee, Neil Golden, Gail Graves, Kristin Holt, Lynda Kelley,
Susan Knowler, David LaBarre, Carrie Leathers, Jeffrey Levine, John Linville,
Tim Mohr, Steve Mamber, Harry Marks, Evelyne Mbandi, Janet McGinn, Cathy Pentz,
Lee Puricelli, Catherine Rockwell, Wayne Schlosser, Brad Webb, Jennifer Webb,
Mike Williams

Pennsylvania Plum Pox Eradication Project Team

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Donald Albright (retired), Group Leader

For contributions and dedication leading to the eradication of Plum Pox Virus in Pennsylvania in 2009.

Group Members:

Christopher Ball, Thomas Chanelli, Gary Clement, Laurene Levy, Bill Swartz,
Mafalda Weldon

Adams County Extension Service Group Members:

Tara Baugher, Lynn Kime, Bill Kleiner

Adams County Nursery Group Member:

Phillip Baugher

Agricultural Research Service Group Members:

Ralph Scorza, William Schneider, Tim Gottwald, Vernon Damsteegt

Bonnie Brae Fruit Farms Group Members:

Jim Lott, William Lott

Lerew Farms Group Members:

Jim Lerew, John Lerew, Joe Lerew

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Group Members:

Sam Hayes, Rayanne Lehman, Russell Redding, Nancy Richwine, Karl Valley, Ruth Welliver, Dennis Wolff

Pennsylvania State University Group Members:

Fred Gildow, John Halbrendt, Greg Krawczyk, Jim Travis

Peters Orchards Group Member:

John Peters

Weiser Orchards Group Members:

Everett Weiser, Steve Weiser

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Team

Food and Nutrition Service, Alexandria, Virginia

**Arthur Foley and Mary Jane Whitney,
Group Leaders**

For leadership in implementing response to the H1N1 pandemic through the Child Nutrition Programs and the Pandemic Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, enabling continued access to nutritious meals for free and reduced-price lunch recipient children during school closures caused by the pandemic influenza.



Group Members:

Julie Brewer, Melissa A. Daigle Katz, Angela Kline, Tina Namian, Brenda Lisi, Rosemary O'Connell, Kathy Ottobre, Vicky Robinson, Melissa Rothstein, Cora Russell, Elizabeth Weber, William Wagoner

Office of the General Counsel Group Member:

Ronald Hill

Team Nutrition Development Team

Food and Nutrition Service, Alexandria, Virginia

Rebecca S. Mandell, Group Leader

For leadership in the administration of the HealthierUS School Challenge and the development of Team Nutrition materials, assisting schools in creating environments that support healthy eating and physical activity.

**Group Members:**

Sonya Barnes, Heidi L. Bishop, Sheri L. Crider, Eileen B. Ferruggiaro, Julie Fort, Sheldon E. Gordon, Geraldine K. Howell, Ebony James, Debra Nigri, Mydina Thabet, Lynne Varney, Tim Vazquez, Laura L. Walter, Alicia H. White, Sherl M. White, Cheryl A. Wilson, Yibo Wood

Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion Group Members:

Jan Adams, Eileen McLaughlin

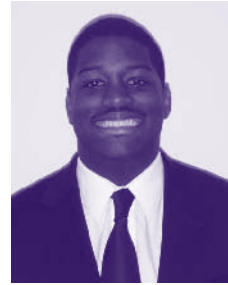
MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE
USDA EVERY DAY IN EVERY WAY

Individual and Group Achievements

Justin E. Drayton

Farm Service Agency, Gainesville, Florida

For outstanding achievement in developing and strengthening recruitment strategies to increase and diversify the USDA workforce.



Emergency Support Function 11 Team

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Riverdale, Maryland

Ronald A. Walton, Group Leader

For service to the public by preparing and responding to emergencies including hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, other disasters, and ensuring the Nation's overall preparedness.



Group Members:

Chris E. Berger, Matthew P. Bragg, Charles S. Brown, George W. Chambless, Holly Chmil, Rosalynn C. Days-Austin, Joseph F. De Monte, Kevin M. Dennison, Timothy R. Fordahl, John H. Grendon, Betty J. Goldentyer, Kerri Goust, Philip A. Gruzalski, Barbara Ha, Vic Harabin, Burke L. Healey, John S. Kinsella, Tyler H. McAlpin, Theodore R. Melott, Gretchen A. Moran, Dale L. Nolte, Bethany J. O'Brien, Jack A. Shere, Todd L. Smith, Luri R. Stewart, Michael G. Stubbs, Christine Sullivan, Ronnie D. Warren, Shannon L. Wheat, Andrew R. Wilds, Jimmy W. Wortham

Food and Nutrition Service Group Member:

Brenda Lisi

Food Safety and Inspection Service Group Member:

Roland W. Fravel, III

Environmental Management Division

Office of Procurement and Property Management, Departmental Management, Washington, D.C.

Jeffrey Goodman, Group Leader

For outstanding efforts to ensure the health and well being of all Americans and leading by example to reduce greenhouse gases, mitigate hazardous wastes, and promote the purchase and use of renewable, sustainable bio-based products.



Group Members:

Catherine Broad, Ron Buckhalt, Holly Fliniau, Dino Johnson, Katherine Lewis, Mark Sajbel, Brenda Styer-Gee, Kylie Tucker, Blake Velde, Karen Valdvogel

Food Safety and Inspection Service Public Health Human Resources System Demonstration Project

Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Laurie F. Lindsay, Group Leader

For developing and implementing a groundbreaking Public Health Human Resources System Demonstration Project that enhances and changes the way FSIS compensates, recognizes, and rewards employees.



Group Members:

Susan L. Bowen, Carol A. Connor, Andrea F. Cotter, Mary T. Davis, Steven W. Feigenbaum, Arriell N. Garner, Cheryl A. Hicks, Linda James Arteaga, Jill R. Kubina, David A. Logan, Robert Mosheyev, Thomas C. Reimler, Tranina Simpkins, Patti J. Smith, Robbie Terry, Debbie M. Thompson, Michele A. Washington, Jeremy A. Wood

National Finance Center Group Member:

Josie M. Stovall

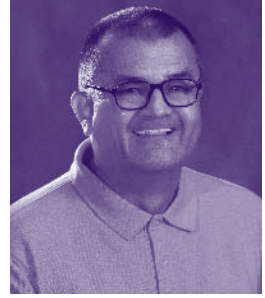
Departmental Management Group Members:

Teresa A. Hunt, Darius N. Jamshidi

Kenneth W. Koehler

Farm Service Agency, Salt Lake City, Utah (posthumous award accepted by Joice Koehler)

For administering the transition of the national aerial photography/imagery processing center and archive to a modern data center servicing the USDA, other federal agencies, and the general public.



National Organic Program Team

Office of Inspector General, Beltsville, Maryland

Joseph E. Mickiewicz, Group Leader

For critical analysis, constructive recommendations, and investigative results that strengthened the oversight and integrity of the National Organic Program under the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Group Members:

Michael D. Clutter, Randy S. Evans, Dedra N. Gamble, Gregory Henderson, John J. McGlynn, John W. Pepper, Laroyce Y. Reid, Steve Romero, Brett A. Siefers, Myron W. Simpson

Federal Bureau of Investigation Group Members:

Keith Quigley, Amy Reese

Texas Department of Agriculture Group Member:

Steve Cavitt

U.S. Department of Justice Group Member:

Steve Sucsy

Remote Sensing Laboratories

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Beltsville, Maryland

Sheryl H. Kunickis, *Group Leader*

For outstanding contributions in support of in-sourcing 84 positions at the Remote Sensing Laboratories in Greensboro, North Carolina; Fort Worth, Texas; and Portland, Oregon; that ensured a diverse and talented USDA workforce.

Group Members:

Teresa A. Evans, Karen R. Garner, James W. Gillum, Yvette L. Gray, Rafael J. Guerrero, Karen A. Holcomb, Alicia M. Jolly, Yvonne Legg, Rublyn M. Lewis, Sonja L. Norman, Javier E. Ruiz, Thomas P. Stredney, Vera Thomas, Judith A. Weber

USDA Geospatial Interface Team

Forest Service, Salt Lake City, Utah

Tom Bobbe, *Group Leader*

For outstanding leadership in the implementation of mapping technology that allows the public to see how their tax dollars are creating jobs, building infrastructure and rejuvenating the Nation's economy.

Group Members:

Susan DeLost, Ron Gendreau, Aaron Stanford

Rural Development Group Member:

Wayne Maloney

Office of the Chief Information Officer Group Members:

Andrew Campbell, Audrey Marks, Chris Marks, Scott Middendorf, Alexander Pyle, Phil Rae, Matt Reiss, Brian Toy, John Walter

Office of Communications Group Members:

Amanda Eamich, Steve Hou, Wayne Moore

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Individual Achievements



Sally Crum

Forest Service, Delta, Colorado

For outstanding personal and professional commitment to furthering relationships with the three Ute Tribes and dedication to advancing multicultural efforts within the Forest Service and throughout the community.



Alan C. Kennedy

Office of Inspector General, Jackson, Mississippi

For exceptional investigative work leading to the prosecution and conviction of two individuals who defrauded the USDA bio-energy program of over \$2.8 million.



SUPPORT SERVICE
Individual Achievements
2010

Janet C. Jacobs

Risk Management Agency, Washington, D.C.

For providing sustained exemplary secretarial support and excellent customer service to internal and external stakeholders of the Risk Management Agency.



HEROISM AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Individual Achievements

2010

Teresa L. Pearson, W. Michael Resnik, and Tim G. Rogers

Rural Development, Topeka, Kansas

For quick, decisive, and compassionate action to save the life and minimize permanent physical and mental impairment of a colleague and co-worker.





2009
PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARD WINNERS

The Presidential Rank Awards Program annually recognizes career Senior Executive Service (SES) and Senior Level (SL) and Scientific or Professional (ST) employees who have provided exceptional service to the American people over an extended period of time. They are outstanding leaders who consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to public service.

Distinguished Executive (SES)



Steven M. Kappes, *Deputy Administrator, Agricultural Research Service*

For exemplary leadership and management of the Agency's animal research program. With emphasis on customer input and involvement, partnerships and employee buy-in, Dr. Kappes has implemented programs that are team-driven, results-oriented, and meet the agricultural and environmental demands of the American people in keeping with national priorities and policies of the Administration. Dr. Kappes has been instrumental in developing long-term strategic plans for animal genomics and animal disease research and utilizing these plans to develop collaborations between U.S. Federal agencies and with U.S. and international scientists.

Distinguished Senior Professional (SL/ST)



Dennis Gonsalves, *Director, United States Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center (PBARC), Agricultural Research Service*

For exemplary leadership for research on viruses that attack fruits and vegetables and oversight of major construction and consolidation efforts, as well as the ongoing research direction of scientists and support staff conducting research on the development of sustainable agricultural systems and pest management programs in support of Hawaii, the Pacific Basin, and U.S. agriculture. Under Dr. Gonsalves' oversight, PBARC has continued to work on critical research issues and has developed world renowned status as a leader in fruit fly research.

Meritorious Executive (SES)



Rebecca A. Bech, *Deputy Administrator, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

For outstanding leadership and direction to a nationally dispersed staff responsible for safeguarding U.S. plant resources from destructive pests and diseases, carried out through enhanced and improved program delivery and regulatory systems that are responsive to the needs of the American public while also protecting American agriculture.



Dennis Bschor, *Regional Forester, Alaska Region, Forest Service (retired)*

For outstanding leadership as the USDA lead on the Alaska-wide Federal Subsistence Board and establishing and sustaining partnerships that result in providing timely information to the Board for effective decision-making and good paying jobs to rural residents, increasing their skill levels in fish/wildlife management and social sciences.



Thomas W. Christensen, *Deputy Chief for Programs of the Natural Resources Conservation Service*

For exemplary leadership for outstanding contributions to the formulation of the conservation policy for the 2008 Farm Bill and implementation of the 2002 Farm Bill's conservation programs. Mr. Christensen also championed the development and implementation of comprehensive natural resource-based allocation formulas for all conservation programs that enhanced transparency and consistency throughout the nation.



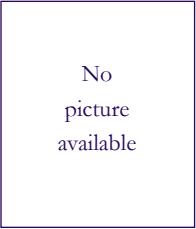
David R. Gray, *Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General (OIG)*

For exemplary leadership in the Presidential Council on Integrity and Efficiency; the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency; and his successful efforts to obtain comprehensive revisions to the Inspector General Act of 1978. Mr. Gray's work on behalf of the OIG community was critical to the passage and enactment of the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-409 (2008 Act)).



Michael Gregoire, Deputy Administrator, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

For outstanding leadership in ensuring the safe development and introduction of genetically-engineered organisms and the successful implementation of an Agency-wide performance measure that allows all programs to quantify results of the Agency's services.



Carol C. House, Deputy Administrator for Programs and Products, National Agricultural Statistics Service (retired)

For exemplary leadership and management in developing collaborations with other Federal agencies, producer groups, Indian leaders, and community-based organizations; implementing human resources programs to encourage creativeness, adaptability, and diversity; and in leading emergency assessment teams in response to volatile situations that affect agricultural producers and commodity markets.



Hank Kashdan, Associate Chief Forester, Forest Service

For outstanding leadership in consolidating and centralizing administrative services resulting in refined processes, standardized computer systems, reducing operating costs and seven consecutive "clean" Office of Inspector General (OIG) audits. The ability to produce these clean audit opinions has been called a "Herculean effort" by the OIG. These and many other accomplishments are directly attributed to his commitment to customer-based results and vibrant, effective leadership.



Gregory L. Parham, Deputy Administrator, Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP) Business Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

For outstanding leadership in providing human resources management, financial management, and administrative services in support of the objectives of the MRP Mission Area, which includes APHIS, the Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.



Bryce Ross Quick, *Deputy Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)*

For exemplary leadership in designing a modern public health information infrastructure based on the principles of transparency, accountability, and a more rapid response capability. By reengineering the planning, coordination, and administration of regulatory and inspection programs for meat, poultry, and egg products, he has led the transformation of USDA's FSIS from a reactive, antiquated food inspection agency to a proactive, cutting-edge public health agency.



A. Kevin Shea, *Associate Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

For outstanding leadership in ensuring the accomplishment of critical program goals, including strengthening emergency management capabilities, revitalizing recruitment and employee development, creating new approaches to disease management, and effectively managing Agency resources.



Dennis Taitano, *Director, Office of Budget and Finance, Farm Service Agency*

For exemplary leadership and outstanding management of financial management systems and programs. Mr. Taitano advanced his vision to develop a world class budget and finance organization consisting of highly motivated, talented and multi-skilled people dedicated to providing exceptional advisory and reporting services that inform Agency and Administration decisions and provide sound internal controls over mission delivery business processes.



PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS AND CALL TO SERVICE AWARD

For the President's Call to Service Award, the employee provided 4,000 hours or more of service to a qualifying organization over the employee's lifetime. For the gold Presidential Call to Service Award, the employee provided 500 hours or more of service; for the silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award, the employee provided a minimum of 250 hours and a maximum of 499 hours of service; and for the bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award, the employee provided a minimum of 100 hours and a maximum of 249 hours of service to a qualifying organization over the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2009. The following employees are recognized for their commitment to strengthen our Nation and to make a difference through volunteer service.

FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Foreign Agricultural Service

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Erin Means*

Farm Service Agency

Call to Service: *Jenifer Campbell, Brenda Dillon, *Larry Gauger, James Hudelson, Claire Lindsey, Dawn Pindell*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Matt Baumgardner, Zachary Burns, *Wayne Enger, David Goodson, Kathy L. Morton, Lisa Shanks, Donna Sifers*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Denise Braukhoff, Tracy A. Hidde, Jeff Johnson, Kimberly Royer, Donna Schroeder, Bruce L. Solko, David J. Sweany, Rebecca Webb-Morser*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Susan Chambers, Tanya Dostal, Makiya Gantt, Jasper E. Grant, John K. Johnston, Tammy Lake, Janet Lee Marwede, Tonya Linares, +Ryan Lindbom, Karen Malkin, Cherry Martin, Coral Maxwell, Terri Roth, Martha Ann Steen*

Risk Management Agency

Call to Service: *Bart Williams*

FOOD, NUTRITION AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Food and Nutrition Service

Call to Service: *Mary Beth Flowers, Helen Rohrich*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Georgina Castillo, Jaclyn Kupcha*

FOOD SAFETY

Food Safety and Inspection Service

Call to Service: *Jay Durell Jessee, Aredia R. Taylor*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Richard E. Bowers, Luz Cantres, Jacqueline E. Hanel, Don Harding, David M. Spencer*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Gregory J. Harstick, Dana Mockovciak, Beatrice Sturgis, *Glen Vanderpool, Crandall Watson*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Lynn Babb, Joe Howell, Vicki J. Jordan, Vilayathusen Kazi, Pam Ogasawara, Gary L. Satzer, Sheryl R. Talley*

MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

Agricultural Marketing Service

Call to Service: **Daniel Manzoni*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Mark Johnson, Lisa Domonkos-Slama*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Barry Bruyn, William Pollock, Lester Speth*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Erin Taylor*

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: **Tracy Bowman, Juan Roman, John Weimers*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Wayne Burnett*

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Angela Emrich*

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Forest Service

Call to Service: **Michael Andersen, *Reneé Andersen, Chris Budke, Fran Herbst, Richard Jennings, *Brian Kliesen, Steven Otoupalik, Neil Weintraub*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Penny Bertram, *Clay Grubb, Jason Kling*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Karen Kuentz, Ann Taylor*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Kenneth Day, Margaret Devall, Lisa Faulkenberg, Chris Hartman, Vicki Ramming*

RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMICS

Agricultural Research Service

Call to Service: *Kim McMunn*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Sandra Ball, *Joyce Jacks, David Lee, Gary Miller, Brandon Schemerhorn, Charles Webber*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Timmy Abney, James Denzler, Buddy Faulkenberry, J. Joe Ford, Julie Grogan, Robert Robinson, Bruce Zilkowski*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Brant Bigger, Charlene Brown, Johnnie Davis, Harvey Freetly, S. Adam Fuller, Ricky Houser, Ronald Marble, Phyllis Martin, David Nielsen, Sharon Sheffield, David Straus*

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Alexander Slosman*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Donald Fike, Megan Lipke*

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Call to Service: *Bernard Linn, Robert Turnure*

Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Clyde Jenkins, *Allen Lambright, Robin Shoberg*

Silver Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Bobbi Burk*

Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award: *Jeanie Barbrow, Virginia Stump, Jeremy Wilson*

**Top five selected for the President's Call to Service Award and gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award.*

+Randomly selected for either the silver or bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award to receive on stage recognition.



MEMORIAL RECOGNITION

In honor of the service and sacrifice of those men and women who gave their lives in the performance of their duties while supporting USDA's mission.

In memory of Forest Service law enforcement officer Kristine Marie Fairbanks of the Olympic National Forest who was fatally shot while in the line of duty on September 20, 2008.

In memory of Forest Service employee Thomas Marovich of the Six Rivers National Forest who lost his life on July 21, 2009, during a rappel proficiency training exercise.

In memory of Forest Service employee Steven Uptegrove who lost his life on August 20, 2009, while assisting in the aerial removal of materials associated with the illegal production of marijuana in the mountains southwest of Unity, Oregon.

In memory of Forest Service law enforcement officer Christopher Upton of the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests who was fatally shot while in the line of duty on March 5, 2010.

In memory of Forest Service employee Rodney Whiteman of the Northeastern Area who died in a plane crash on June 21, 2010, during a Forest Health aerial pest survey.

In memory of Forest Service employee Daniel Snider of the Northeastern Area who died in a plane crash on June 21, 2010, during a Forest Health aerial pest survey.

The Department of Agriculture has no resource more valuable than our dedicated employees, and we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving this Nation.

On behalf of all of my colleagues, I extend our deepest gratitude and most heartfelt sympathy to the families of these individuals.

Sincerely,
Tom Vilsack, Secretary



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the following organizations for their dedicated efforts in preparation for the ceremony. Special thanks are also extended to the organizations and staffs who have contributed to our Program.

Office of Executive Secretariat

Office of Executive Services

Office of Communications

Departmental Management



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